

Fist fight in Egypt's Parliament

CARDO, Feb. 13 (R). — A fist fight erupted yesterday in Egypt's parliament for the first time in over 25 years, Egyptian newspapers reported today. Government and opposition members came to blows after the deputy speaker interrupted a member of the newly-formed Wafdist Party who was criticising the ruling Misi Party. Parliamentary guards intervened to stop the fighting and banned press photographers from taking pictures, the reports said. Newspapers said it was Parliament's first such incident since a revolution overthrew King Farouk in 1952. Wafdist member Ali Salama had accused deputy speaker Sayed AB Sayed of deviating from a debate on a new tax law.

Volume 3, Number 677

Cease-fire holds in Beirut but shelling continues in the south

RUT, Feb. 13 (Agencies). — Heavy artillery duels were re-enacted near Lebanon's border with Israel today, while a ceasefire between Syrian and Lebanese forces in Beirut held a third straight day.

A communiqué from Yasser Arafat's Palestinian high command in Beirut charged that Israeli heavy artillery fire teams with Israeli-backed Lebanese Christian riggers in shelling the guerrilla-controlled town of Nabatiyeh and four adjacent villages.

Lebanese villagers reported five locations came under heavy artillery fire at dawn. They said they saw Palestinian leftist Lebanese firing batteries.

The governor's office in Sidon, the provincial capital of southern Lebanon, said there were immediate reports of casualties.

Shelling followed intermittent shelling and mortar exchanges during the night between guerrilla forces and the Israeli-backed Christian militias in the fighting strongholds of Qle'a Marounieh, close to the Israeli border.

In the capital, a few bursts of machine-gun fire and a loud explosion were heard during the night in the eastern Christian districts of Ashrafieh, scene of ferocious fighting last week.

The right-wing French-language daily Le Reveil said people were killed near Rizk Hospital in Ashrafieh last night during fighting between Syrian troops and the militia.

Schools in the eastern Christian districts were closed today after rightwing leaders decided it would be preferable to wait until security was further stabilised. In the predominantly Moslem western districts of Beirut however schools were open.

The Lebanese cabinet today approved an urgent bill setting up a special Lebanese security court which will try crimes against the state and security of peace-keeping forces in Lebanon.

Lebanese left-wing leader Walid Jumblatt today warned however that fighting between right-wing Christian forces and Palestinian guerrillas and their allies in south Lebanon could get much worse.

In an interview with the Algerian government daily Al Moujihad, he blamed the conflict on the refusal of privileged rightwingers to accept a charter proposed by the Arab "progressives," and added: "The current period, unfortunately, is only a truce."

Mr. Jumblatt, chairman of the Lebanese National Movement, also suggested Israel had designs on south Lebanon.

Soviets may make neutron bomb too

MOSCOW, Feb. 13 (R). — The Soviet Union today said in a commentary by TASS that it was prepared to produce its own neutron bomb if the West went ahead with its development of the weapon.

Cheering Somalis enlist in masses while Ethiopians consolidate gains

GADISHU, Feb. 13 (R). — Thousands of Somali volunteers began intensive military training today after a call to arms by President Mohammed Siad Barre in which he said Somalia stood alone against Ethiopian forces backed by Indians and Cubans in the aden war.

In a speech to a cheering crowd of 100,000 here yesterday, the president said every man who could carry a rifle would prepare to defend his nation.

Brigadier Gen. Aden Abdulla Nur today told reporters 30,000 volunteers, the youngest aged 15, had already gone forward in the Mogadishu alone.

The first priority for these recruits is to defend our national frontiers, the general said. "If it becomes necessary we will also be sent into the aden."

The Somali leader said U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance had called for the withdrawal of Soviet, Cuban and Somalis from the Ogaden region.

"We can understand when calls for the Russians to go but where will the Somalis go?"

Major Ethiopian gains

The Ethiopian army, driving through arid mountains in a counter-offensive against Somalis, has made major gains according to front-line commanders in Harar, Southern

Yemen and Djibouti.

Meanwhile, Newsweek International has charged that the Somali government has been trying covertly to buy arms through a European consortium.

The report named France,

Italy and Spain as in some way involved in the arms shipments and Saudi Arabia as the financier.

track to the front.

Col. Mulatu, in a briefing in an ornate room of one of Harar's elegant large French-built buildings, estimated that the Somalis had suffered about 10,000 casualties in the war.

Diplomatic moves

Somali leaders are reported to be contacting all member nations of the U.N. Security Council to try to have tabled a resolution calling for an end to the fighting and to outside interference.

Somalia's Ambassador in Paris said today his country was ready for a ceasefire with Ethiopia provided the right to self-determination of the Western Somali people was recognised.

The ambassador said Somalia was not against the idea of a federation of the Ogaden region with Ethiopia or Somalia but this could take place only after a referendum on self-determination.

The Middle East News Agency (MENA) said Egypt had sent a message to the Organisation of African Unity on the seriousness of the dispute, urging fresh African efforts to end it.

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JORDAN TIMES

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Round 1 to Carter. Round 2 to Begin. Round 3?

The exchange of sharp remarks between American and Israeli leaders this weekend about Israel's settlements in Arab territories was bound to come out into the open sooner or later, and it reflects the untenable and basic contradiction in both Israel's and America's postures in the current peace-making effort. On the Israeli side, the contradiction is wanting to have peace as well as maintain control of occupied territories and refuse to see the reality of the Palestinian national sentiment that the Palestinians want to activate in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. On the American side, the contradiction is providing Israel with the life-sustaining support to maintain the status quo while simultaneously saying that it, the United States, is a fair mediator that has the full confidence of both the Israelis and the Arabs.

As will happen with all contradictions by definition, sooner or later they start falling apart at the seams, and that is what we are witnessing now in the rather pointed remarks being traded between Messrs. Carter and Vance in the American corner, and Messrs. Dayan and Begin in the Israeli corner. It is in the interest of the Arabs to help bring this fundamental divergence in American and Israeli interests to the forefront, and to help intensify the contradictions that are so evident today. The main value of this would be to bring the Americans to the realisation that if they are really serious about playing the mediator's role in the Middle East, they will have to start putting their money where their mouth is. That is, the United States will have to start dealing more forcefully with its client state of Israel in those areas where the American position has been stated so clearly by none other than Messrs. Carter and Vance. This includes the area of the settlements, an Israeli withdrawal and legitimate Palestinian rights. The Israelis have shown they are willing and able to stand up to the Americans. The Americans, unfortunately, have yet to show that they are willing or able to stand up to the Israelis.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I, on Monday, said it seems the conflict over the legality of Jewish settlements has re-erupted between Israel and the United States because the Israeli media has "opened fire" on U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance for objecting to the settlements. While this campaign goes on Egypt, for the first time, has accepted the holding of a United Nations peace conference as an alternative to the Egyptian-Israeli peace talks if these fail. This shows that Egypt is on the path of abandoning the separate talks with Tel Aviv. It is hoped that all nations join the call for such a U.N.-sponsored conference in an effort to remove the shadow of disaster from the area.

AL DUSTOUR said the Israeli attitude appears to remain the same after recent objections to U.S. criticisms of Israel. The attitude can be summarised as follows: Israel argues the Palestinian self-determination issue from the point of view of the number of airplanes all Arab nations possess. It argues the status of the occupied Golan Heights from the point of view of a military strategist. Finally, it argues the whole question of peace from the point of view of a presumed continuation of war.

CYPRUS INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE FESTIVAL

Open Pairs Tournament from 5/3 to 8/3

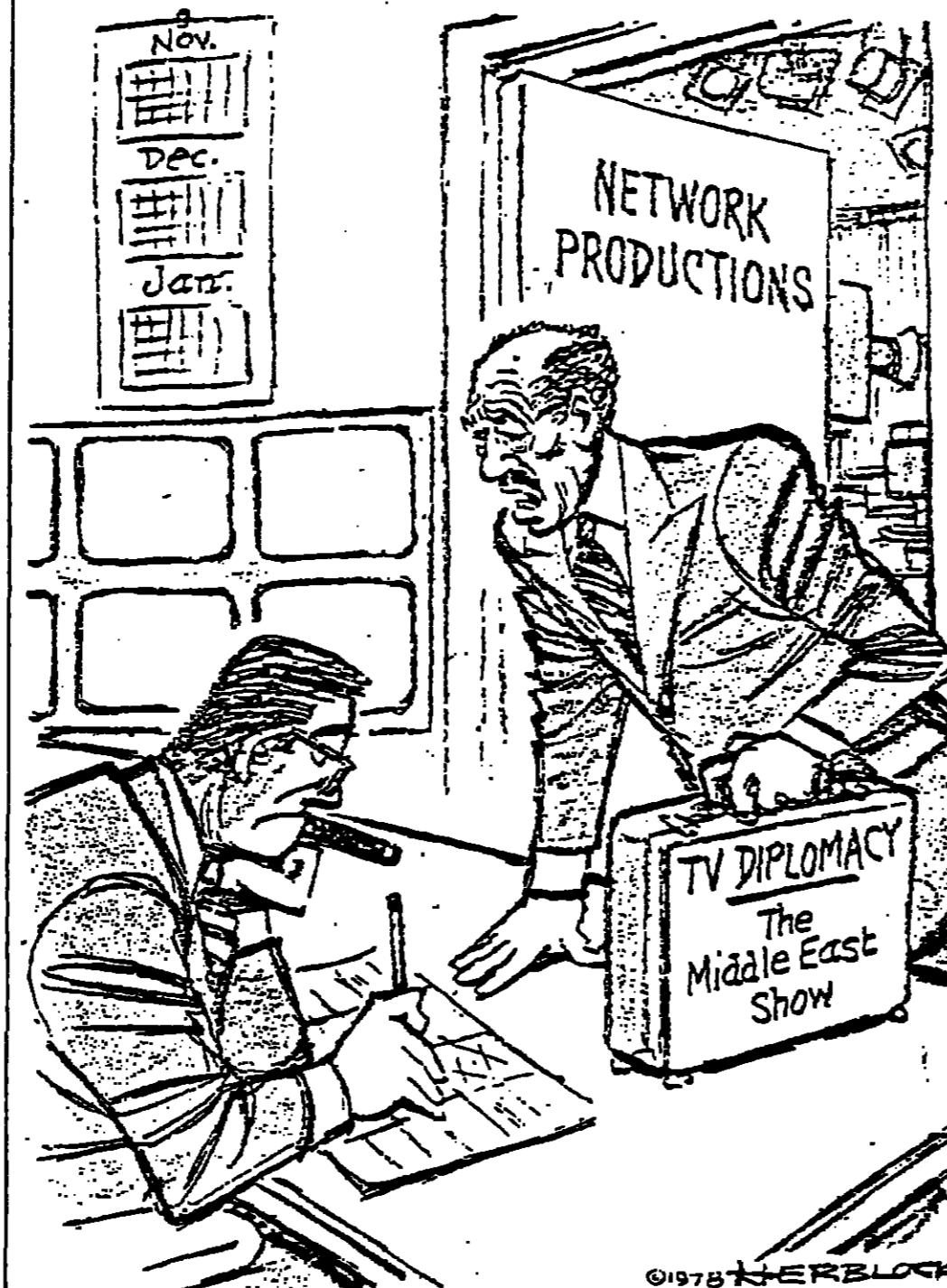
We have made arrangements for Jordanian players to participate for JD 50, including air ticket, half-board at 1st class hotel, transfer from and to airport and participation fees. For more details, please contact:

International Traders, Jordan Insurance Bldg. A, Third Circle, phone 42356.

You can also book through your travel agent.

Deadline for bookings is 18/2 at 12:00 hrs.

"SO IT HASN'T BEEN DOING SO WELL LATELY — GIVE ME ANOTHER THIRTEEN WEEKS"



University professors protest Israeli occupation practices

We have just received this open letter, distributed on Jan. 6, 1978 on Birzeit Letter-head paper. It refers directly to an incident involving brutal treatment by Israeli occupation forces of a student of Birzeit University which we reported in the Jordan Times of last week,

Dear Sir, ...

As the headlines concentrate on peace talks in the Middle East, we would like to draw attention to a reality for Palestinians who continue under the Israeli occupation.

Yesterday evening, at 8.00 p.m., two students from Birzeit University obeyed a summons to report with their fathers to the Office of the Military Governor in Ramallah. While their fathers were kept waiting outside the inner gate, they were severely beaten and brutalized in an attempt to extract a confession that they had thrown stones at an Israeli military vehicle. They insisted they had not done so.

On their release at midnight, one of the students, Khalid Mohammad Abid Rubbat, was hospitalized in Ramallah on the instructions of the doctor who examined him. He was in severe

pain and collapsed shortly after his release. The doctor was alarmed by the erratic behaviour of his pulse and feared internal bleeding.

In spite of his condition, he was ordered to appear again before a Captain Asher the next morning (to-

day) at 9.30 a.m. The doctor

said that in his experience the student would be removed from the hospital by force if he did not obey the summons unless he were actually dying, and a medical certificate would serve no purpose.

What we are reporting is one instance of a daily occurrence. The signatories

of this letter include those who directly witnessed the entry of the students into the interrogation building, the sounds of the interrogation, the silhouetted figures of those giving and receiving blows, the emergence of the victims, and the medical

examination and hospitalization.

Yours faithfully,

James Auty M.A. (Cantab)

Hugh R. Harcourt, Ph.D.

Dr. Emile A. Nakleah

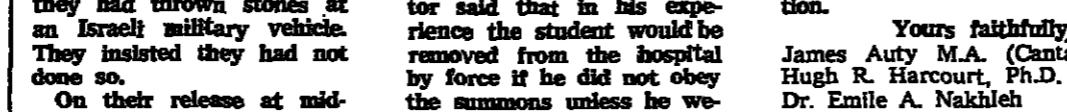
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EEC ministers agree to speed up Greek entry negotiations

JESSEL, Feb. 8 (R). — Common Market foreign ministers agreed here yesterday to speed up negotiations on Greek entry to the EEC. But they rejected a suggestion by France that they commit themselves to Greece becoming a member on Jan. 1, 1980, EEC officials said.

British Foreign Secretary David Owen told his EEC colleagues that any commitment for Greek membership should be made as strongly for Spain and Portugal, stalled negotiations with

Britain issues new, smaller £1 banknote

LONDON, Feb. 8 (AP). — New, smaller, one pound banknotes went into circulation in Britain today. The new banknotes are five-eighths of an inch (1.58 cms.) less than the ones they are replacing and three-sixteens of an inch (43 cms.) less from top to bottom. The old notes measure 5 5/16 inches (13.5 cms.) by 2 13/16 inches (7.14 cms.). There are 800 million in circulation. The Bank of England says it will take about a year to collect all the old notes and complete the switch. Meanwhile, both old and new banknotes will be legal tender.

A major reason for the change is to save printing bills. The new notes will help blind people distinguish them from bank notes of higher denominations. The new notes also contain designs to frustrate forgers.

Like the old, green banknotes, the design of which dates from 1960, the new yellow, green and blue banknotes have a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II on one side.

On the other side, the national emblem of Britannia with sword and shield has been replaced with a picture of the 18th century British scientist Sir Isaac Newton.

OPEC became a borrower in last quarter of '77

EL, Switzerland, Feb. 8 (R). — Oil-rich countries borrowed more money from the international banking system in the last quarter of 1977 than deposited. The Bank for International Settlements reported today. US said during the period member states of the Organization of Oil Exporting Co-

munities (OPEC) borrowed a total of \$2.2 billion and deposited only \$0.4 billion.

Thus, the OPEC countries together ran net borrowings of \$1.8 billion during the last three months of 1977. This was the first time the OPEC group had become a net borrower since the oil price explosion in 1973.

The OPEC Special Fund

tor's note: Following is a report from the January issue of the Bulletin of the Organization of Arab Oil Exporting Countries (OPEC). The Jordan Times is reprinting it in full for readers interested in the function and progress of the OPEC Special Fund.

The OPEC Special Fund was established in 1976 by members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries as a new facility to provide concessional financing to developing countries. The initiative of establishing the fund was first taken in Iran when in 1974 an association jointly financed by members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and the industrialized countries was first proposed. A positive response from the industrialized countries to an intensification of efforts of the OPEC member states at their meeting in Paris in March, 1975, led to the decision to carry on with the proposal by intensifying and coordinating a programme for financial operation with other developing countries.

Declaration of the Sovereigns and Heads of State of EC in Algiers in 1975, the fundamental objective of the fund is to encourage all forms of cooperation among developing countries in order to promote the economic development of those countries. The establishment of the fund is also to the broader accept of global cooperation toward the creation of a new international economic order.

Characteristics of OPEC aid

There has been a significant expansion in OPEC aid

Table 1	
U.S. \$ millions	
Algeria	18.00
Ecuador	0.00
Gabon	8.50
Indonesia	1.25
Iran	104.75
Iraq	20.00
Venezuela	56.00
Kuwait	26.00
Libya	20.00
Nigeria	26.00
Qatar	9.00
Saudi Arabia	100.00
UAE	16.00

The fund's activities

During its first year of operations, the fund was engaged in a wide range of activities. According to the fund's first annual report (covering Aug. to Dec. 1976), the main operations of the fund were as follows:

1. During its first session (May 10-12, 1974) the Governing Committee of the OPEC Special Fund authorised a to-

tal of \$400 million to the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The contribution was raised to \$435.5 million when Iran, Venezuela and Saudi Arabia raised their shares by \$20 million, \$10 million and \$5.5 million respectively. The distribution of shares was initially as shown in table 1.

In Dec. 1976, the Governing Committee authorised an additional \$800 million to the IFAD.

2. The first balance-of-payments support programme

A sum of \$200 million was allocated to aid countries with balance-of-payments deficits. The design of the programme involved:

(a) Coverage: Priority for receiving funds is for the most seriously affected (MSA) countries, which the United Nations has defined as "those which are at the greatest disadvantage in the world economy, the least developed, the land-locked and other low-income developing countries as

well as other ... whose economies have been seriously dislocated as a result of the present economic crisis, natural calamities, and foreign aggression and occupation." It is worth noting that the 45 MSA countries account for a large share of the world population, having around one billion inhabitants.

(b) Allocation: The allocations on criteria are a function of a country's per capita income as an index of relative poverty; the decline in a country's gross foreign exchange reserves as an index of past balance-of-payments difficulties and future vulnerability; the ratio of imports and debt service payments to reserves as an index of the current financial burden, and finally, the increase in oil-import costs.

The terms of the loans to MSA countries stipulates that credit is interest-free with an annual service charge of 0.5 per cent on amounts withdrawn and outstanding. The ma-

Never a dull moment...

Readers who thought they were seeing new puzzles on page 4 of yesterday's Jordan Times can stop wondering now. The boxed news item at the top of the page read backwards due to one of those regular technical mistakes that are made by the Jordan Times' printing staff. For our puzzle-minded readers, however, the answer to deciphering the story is to hold the page up to be read against a mirror. Sorry about that.

- The editor

Utilities enforce power cuts as U.S. miners fail to approve new contract

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 (R). — The end of the longest coal strike in American history hung in the balance last night after miners' leaders failed to approve a new contract.

As one of the worst blizzards in years roared through the northeastern United States, the 38-man Bargaining Council of the United Mine Workers (UMW), voted to recess consideration of a tentative agreement announced Monday night.

Endorsement by the UMW Bargaining Council is the first step towards ratification by secret ballot of the 160,000 miners who have been on strike since Dec. 6.

The council said it would meet again when all contract language was in its final form.

UMW President Arnold Miller, who had endorsed the tentative agreement reached Monday with the Bituminous Coal Operators Association, said it could take several days.

The 64-day strike -- now beginning to bite as electrical utilities enforce power cuts during a particularly harsh winter -- has cost the coal industry millions of dollars.

Labour Secretary Ray Marshall, hailing last night's tentative agreement, said the strike had "brought the country perilously close to widespread coal shortages in the midst of a severe winter."

Under the tentative agreement, the miners would get an increase of \$2.35 on their present hourly wage of \$7.80 over a three-year contract. They have been striking for \$2.60.

The miners also wanted a limited right to strike individual mines over local grievances. There was no mention of that in the tentative agreement.



Carcac sheep breeding is a traditional branch of agriculture in the republics of Soviet Asia. Caracal sheep breeding has been practised for centuries in the Uzbek SSR. The natural colour of caracal is black, but selectionists working and elaborating various methods of selection have obtained over 20 colours and tints of caracal fur -- grey, pink, lilac, mother-of-pearl, white and brown. Specialists say that peculiarities of the climate, vegetation and water in Asian republics are favourable for breeding sheep with fur of rare colours. "Sur" caracal is especially famous, as its two-coloured skins of silver, bronze, golden and amber duns are valued much more than that of ordinary colours.

Countries violating human rights will still get U.S. aid

Aid to Africa

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 (R). — The United States will continue to give aid in varying degrees to governments that fail to meet President Carter's standards on human rights, White House spokesman Jody Powell said yesterday.

He made his comment in response to a report that the State Department favours continuing aid despite what it felt were widespread human rights violations in those countries.

The Washington Post story said the State Department has drawn up reports, to be made public next week, on 105 countries receiving American military or economic aid.

Despite a 1976 law requiring human rights violations to be considered in allocating military aid, only one country, Nicaragua, had been marked for a major cut-back, the post said.

"It is not our policy that we will totally sever our relationships with other countries with whom we may have differences on the question of human rights, nor will we cut off entirely their foreign aid," Mr. Powell told reporters.

Any other policy would be unsophisticated and self-defeat-

ingly, he said. The issue was extremely complex and could not be resolved on the basis of a single ruling.

The Washington Post said the State Department reports found there have been improvements in the human rights situation in Iran, South Korea and Nicaragua, in the main, though torture, cruel or inhuman punishment, arbitrary imprisonment and denial of fair trials still persist.

The newspaper quoted unidentified sources as saying that South Korea will get military aid because of its military importance to the United States.

The administration already has announced a \$1.8 billion military aid programme for South Korea to compensate for the planned withdrawal of all American combat troops from the Asian country.

The Washington Post also quoted officials as saying that Iran, which has made large purchases of advanced weapons from the U.S., will not be cut off from further supplies because it was an important ally and the world's second largest exporter of crude oil.

"Efforts to facilitate peaceful change can be reinforced by promoting economic stability and establishing the basis for long-term development in the region," she told the Africa Subcommittee of the House of Representatives International Relations Committee.

For this purpose, she said, the department was requesting \$45 million to improve transportation in Botswana, provide balance of payments support to Zambia and to provide educational opportunities for refugees in Southern Africa.

Rolls Royce recalls all 1977 models

LONDON, Feb. 8 (R). — Rolls Royce said yesterday they are asking their worldwide dealer network to recall all cars built in the last year because of a remote chance they have a dangerous fault.

This includes the Shadow, Camargue and Corniche models, 60 per cent of which have been exported.

"We have isolated the problem, and we have a solution which is now being put into effect ... there has not been an accident, but there could be one, hence the recall," a spokesman said.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON MARKET REPORT

Stocks prices were marked higher following Chancellor of Exchequer Denis Healey's statement that his spring budget will not be election-oriented.

Government bonds finished as much as 1/4 point higher on the day though trading continued to be nervous on fears of money supply growth. Industrial leaders put on a penny or two though at 15:00 the FT Index was 0.2 at 463.5.

Trust Houses Forte rose 8p following its final earnings report while IMPS put on further 2 1/2 after yesterday's earnings figures which were in line with expectations.

BATS finished 6p higher while Fisons, ICI, Beecham and Lucas firms firmed between 3p and 5p.

Among oil companies BP returned to its overnight levels after being lower and Shell ended a penny higher after being down 2p. Leaders among banks were mixed.

Jordanian fils Buying/selling

U.S. dollar	313.00/315.00
U.K. sterling	607.00/611.00
W. German mark	148.90/149.80
Swiss franc	160.10/161.00
French franc	63.80/64.20
Italian lire (for every 100)	36.20/36.40
Japanese yen (for every 100)	130.10/130.90
Dutch guilder	139.30/140.10
Belgian franc (for every ten)	96.30/96.90
Swedish crown	67.00/68.00

National News Roundup

TV director general to attend ABU meeting

AMMAN, Feb. 8 (JNA). — Jordan Television General Director Mohammad Kamal will lead Jordan's delegation to the meetings of the Arab Broadcasting Union's ninth session due to be held in Riyadh on Feb. 27 to discuss television and radio news exchange among Arab countries and other international unions.

Industry minister to attend Tunis meeting

AMMAN, Feb. 8 (JNA). — The Cabinet has decided to delegate Minister of Industry and Commerce Dr. Najmedine Dajani to represent Jordan at the meetings of the Arab Economic Council scheduled to be held in Tunis on Feb. 20.

Work starts on Amman Zoo

AMMAN, Feb. 8 (JNA). — The Mayor of Amman Ma'n Abu No-war announced today that the Municipality has started work on a zoo at Ras Al 'Ain public park in Amman.

Information delegation for Cairo

AMMAN, Feb. 8 (JNA). — The Council of Ministers today named Jordan's delegation to the meetings of the Arab League Information Council due to open in Cairo Feb. 18, to discuss Information policy and inter-Arab coordination in the field of information. The delegation will be led by Mr. Peter Salah, adviser to the Ministry of Information.

263 new companies registered

AMMAN, Feb. 8 (JNA). — The number of companies registered at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce during the last quarter of 1977 amounted to 263 with a total capital of JD 6,581,440, a ministry source said today.

Amman Stock Exchange Report

NAME OF COMPANY	Nominal share value	Volume traded	Opening price	Highest selling price	Lowest selling price	Closing price	Last buying bid	Last selling bid
1. Jordan Pipe Manufacturing Co.	JD 10.000	112	11.200	11.250	11.250	11.250	—	—
2. Housing Bank	JD 1.000	945	1.050	1.050	1.050	1.050	1.050	1.100
3. Jordan-Kuwait Bank	JD 1.000	238	1.350	1.350	1.350	1.350	—	—
4. Arab Pharmaceutical Co.	JD 5.000	117	11.650	11.700	11.700	11.650	—	—
5. Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1.000	70	1.400	1.400	1.400	1.400	—	—
6. Cement Factory	JD 10.000	995	15.550	15.550	15.550	15.550	15.500	15.650
7. Textiles Factory	JD 1.000	500	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	—	1.100
8. Paper and Cardboard Factory	JD 1.000	572	1.050	1.050	1.050	1.050	—	—
9. Jordan Petroleum Co.	JD 5.000	1,247	6.950	6.950	6.900	6.900	6.900	6.950
10. Phosphate Mines	JD 1.000	220	2.150	2.200	2.200	2.200	—	—

50 per cent of share capital paid.

Total volume traded, Wednesday, Feb. 8: JD 5,016.

Policewomen recruited

AMMAN, Feb. 8 (JNA). — The Public Security Directorate announced today that it has begun to enlist women for the ranks of police officer, non-commissioned officer and private. A university would be given the rank of second lieutenant after six months and the bearer of a secondary school certificate the rank of corporal. The rank of private would go to lesser qualified applicants. Accommodation and clothing will be provided free during the training course, and trainees will receive full pay throughout.

Electricity plans for Irbid governorate

IRBID, Feb. 8 (JNA). — Governor of Irbid Ma'moun Khalil today met with a British delegation specialised in electrification of rural areas. He acquainted the delegation with the situation of the public services in his governorate especially as regards power and water. The British team is carrying out technical and financial studies on a plan for the electrification of the Irbid governorate in general and the Kfarat area in particular, the Technical Director of the Irbid Electricity Corporation, Abdul Rahim Khalil said today. The project would be financed by a British loan of JD 3 million. The Jordanian and British governments are expected to sign the loan agreement within the next few months, the technical director added. The project comes within an over-all plan to supply the Irbid governorate 130 villages with electricity.

Orphans fund invests in housing

AMMAN, Feb. 8 (J.T.). — The Director General of the Fund for Investment of Orphans Money, Alaaudine Al Nammani said over the weekend that his institution is now building 60 housing units near the public security housing project. Mr. Al Nammani told Al Ra'i newspaper that the project includes four buildings whose total cost will be JD 700,000 and will be fully completed within four months. The fund, he added, has found this the most profitable way to invest the orphans money and will be building more housing units.

Transplanted Somalis learn to like fish

A few hundred miles from the war with Ethiopia, some Somalis are having a different excitement -- seeing the sea for the first time.

ROME, (WFS) — Nomads in Somalia who had never even seen a large expanse of water, are being trained as fishermen. About 15,000 nomads have been airlifted from the arid interior to three coastal sites on the Indian Ocean.

When they first saw the sea, the older nomads held back, scared and suspicious, but some of the younger ones raced to the water's edge and started drinking. Then they were sick. From this unlikely beginning the scheme has developed, with the bushmen being weaned off camel meat onto fish, being taught to swim and being trained as fishermen.

The Somali government scheme was put into operation after drought killed 16,000 Somali nomads, mostly children. By 1975 the drought had forced more than 200,000 into government refugee camps. Their herds, the mainstay of their way of life, had nearly been wiped out.

Transplanting nomads

More than 100,000 nomads are being re-trained as farmers, but for 15,000 the change was more traumatic, involving air-lifts to the coast and new lives as fishermen.

With them they took their few moveable possessions and habit of building "beehive" huts, but left behind their old ways and habits. At the start, bits of fish were mixed with their camel meat. Most of them had never eaten it before and many hated the taste at first. Even the smell of cooking fish made them ill.

Gradually, however, the transition was made, and now the nomads themselves are in better health. Some say they do not care if they never eat meat again.

At first, the men, women and children were encouraged. At Brava, nearly 200 kms. south of the capital Mogadishu, a causeway and tower still stand as reminders of the Portuguese influence. Brava was one of the centres chosen for the nomad experiment.

Learning to fish

There, within a few weeks, they could swim out to the fishing boats and the next stage could begin, teaching them to fish. They learned net-throwing, seamanship, and on shore the women are learning how to skin, gut, dry and smoke fish such as yellowtail, mackerel and grouper. Already, more than 1,000 nomads have finished their training as fishermen.

One thing holding back the project is a shortage of boats, but the government has 100 on order for the Brava settlement alone. The catches of fish are increasing with the skill and experience of the trainees. In 1977 their estimated catch was 500 tons of fish for sale in addition to what they needed for themselves.

A shark is a big catch for the fishermen -- dried fins and skins fetch high prices. Its meat is exported, its bones used as fertiliser after being ground down, and its liver oil also has a high value.

A hospital and a school have been built at Brava, while permanent houses are slowly replacing the traditional nomad huts. The United Nations' World Food Programme is supporting the three fishing villages by giving grain, cooking oil and to "get to know" the water by splashing around in its shallows. Once initial fear had receded, the swimming lessons began. Their tutors were local fishermen, who are believed to be partly descended from the Portuguese who settled in the area more than 450 years ago with the explorer Vasco da Gama.

Police make public letter from alleged "hillside strangler"

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 8 (AP). — A man claiming to be the "hillside strangler" said in a letter made public yesterday that he killed a dozen "evil ladies" because his mother told him to.

Police, stressing that they did not know whether the letter was authentic, said the writer gave them "another week or so" to meet his call for help in turning himself in safely, and threatened "something serious" if authorities failed to respond.

Assistant Police Chief Daryl F. Gates read reporters the first page of the pen printed, six-page letter mailed last month to Mayor Tom Bradley. The lined school notebook page said:

"Dear Mr. Mayor:

"Please listen to me. I am very sick, but I do not want to go back to that place. I hate that place. My mother told me to kill those evil ladies. It's not my fault ... mother makes my head hurt. That is why I kill her. But I can't get her out of my head. She keeps coming back. That's why I hate her."

Mr. Gates said the writer claimed to have a particular item that would prove he is the strangler. Mr. Gates refused to identify the item but said if the writer did have it police would be inclined to believe he is really the killer.

Mr. Bradley said at a news conference Monday that whoever wrote the letter postmarked Jan. 19 "indicates he is the strangler and wishes to surrender himself and a friend to the mayor's office. He also indicated he would forward a certain item after he received assurances for his safety from the mayor."

Mr. Bradley said he "will take all the necessary steps to ensure the complete safety of the actually involved individuals."

Blue jeans are out for men, according to Paris fashion

PARIS, Feb. 8 (R). — Blue jeans are out and clothes sober enough to wear to a funeral will be the fashion for men next winter, according to the Paris mens' wear moguls.

Showings for next autumn and winter which ended here yesterday abandoned the classic informality of denim for the solid conservatism beloved of bankers, diplomats and gentleman farmers.

The watchwords for 1978 will be serious, sober and sane. Colours are muted deep browns and dark greys.

The unisex look is gone, though there are some common trends for both sexes such as broader padded shoulders for jackets, trousers cut wider over the hips and tapering towards the ankles, small-

er shirt-collars and narrow string-ties.

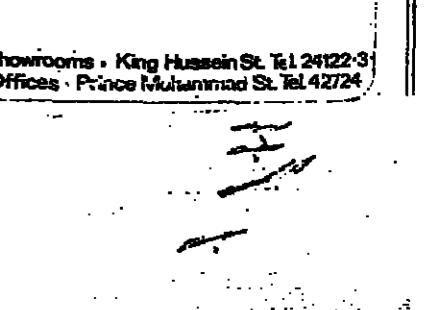
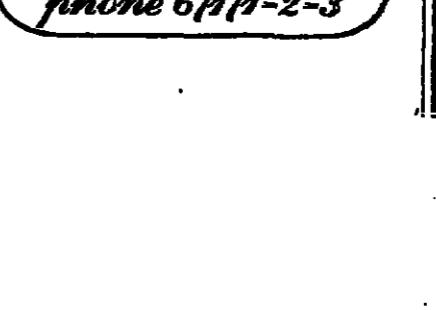
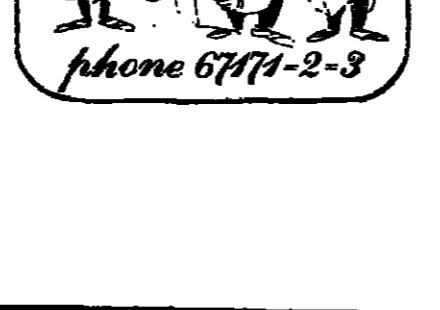
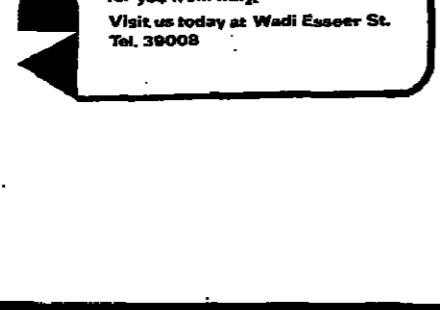
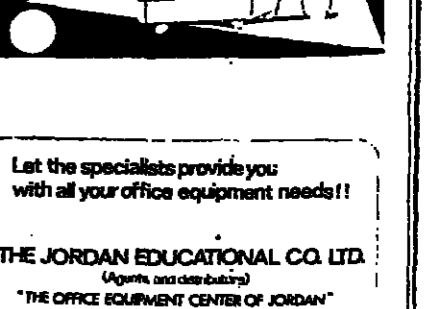
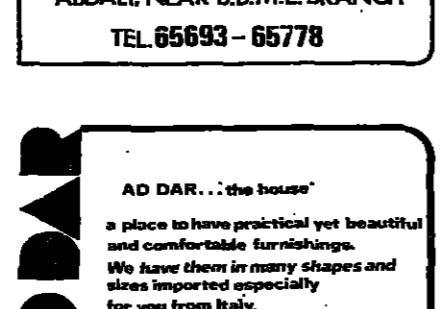
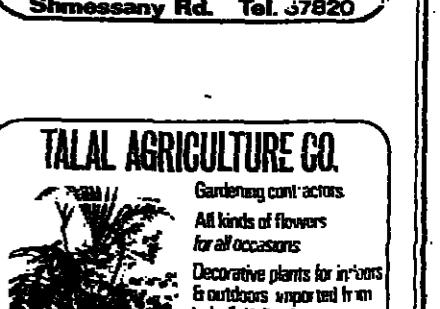
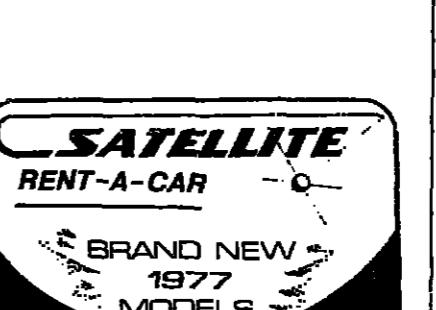
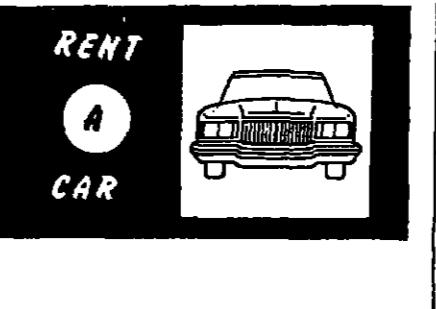
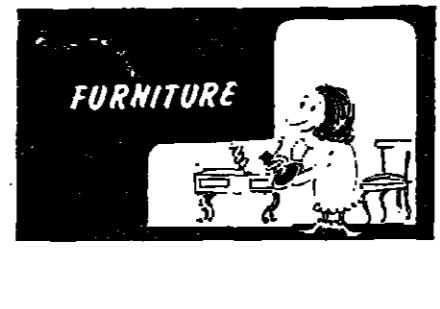
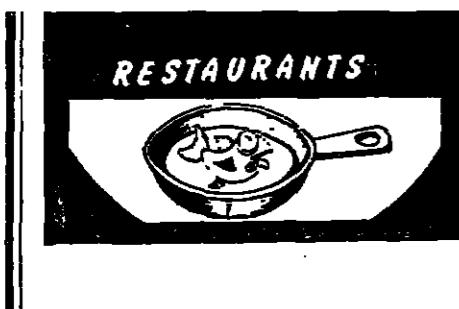
The new sartorial hero is the gentleman farmer clad in soft tweeds, shetlands and corduroy Norfolk jackets with inset belt at the back worn with long flowing scarves and golf caps.

The waistcoat is back everywhere, the latest in a six-button format cut straight at the waist rather than ending in the classic two points.

The only fantasy clothes come from Pierre Cardin, who led off his show with a series of "abominable snowman" coats made of raw hide covered with dangling animal tails.

All other designers however appear to be going on the assumption that only a handful of millionaires will purchase whimsy at Paris prices.

AMMAN MARKETPLACE



UAE Currency Board reduces compulsory reserve requirement

ABU DHABI, Feb. 13 (R). — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) Currency Board yesterday informed banks in the seven-member federation of a series of measures to stimulate the economy. A circular received by the banks here confirmed the announcement that the board was reducing by 0.5 per cent to seven per cent the compulsory reserves which the banks have to deposit with the Central Monetary Authority.

The bankers here said what was more significant was that the Currency Board said it would in future consider funds deposited in foreign currencies in UAE-based banks as part of a bank's total deposits if they had a maturity of more than six months.

They said that this was likely to allow foreign bank branches to lend much larger sums than they had previously been able to since the Currency Board last May introduced sweeping measures to restrict credit in this federation which has more than 50 banks for a population of about 600,000.

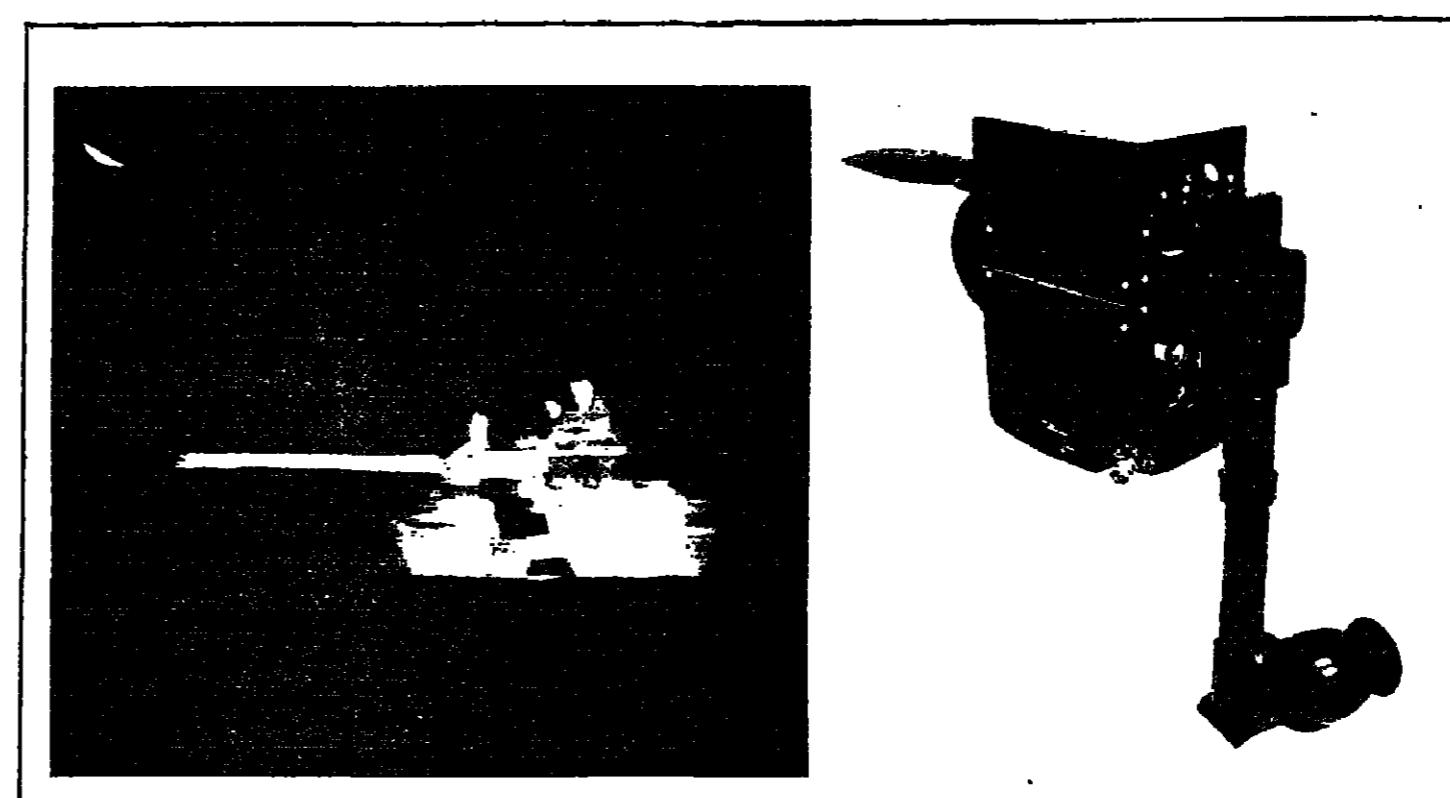
Another significant measure likely to affect the smaller banks was that they will henceforth be allowed to consider as deposits for ratio purposes their borrowings from other banks if they are in inst-

ments with a maturity of more than six months. This would allow these banks to significantly expand their lending, the bankers said.

The Currency Board, which is soon to be replaced by a full-fledged central bank, also announced in its circular that it was resuming its swap facilities for the dollar.

This meant that it was prepared to swap with the banks U.S. dollars for UAE dirhams and vice versa at no charge, thus easing foreign exchange transactions, especially for commerce, bankers said.

A Currency Board spokesman said here Saturday measures were intended to inject about 300 million dirhams (\$78 million) into the sluggish economy hit mainly by a slump in the property market.



A lightweight and completely self-contained aiming sight which can "see" in the dark has been developed by Hawker Siddeley Dynamics, part of British Aerospace, for anti-tank guided weapons. The high definition aiming device (right) is designed to fit directly onto a variety of anti-tank guided weapons systems, including those operated by one man, although it can be integrated into a specific weapon system. The picture on the left shows how a tank would be revealed by the sight in total darkness. It was taken from a thermal imager similar to the sight and using exactly the same principle. The sight enables an armoured fighting vehicle to be identified at a range of at least two kilometres. It can be used in daylight as well as total darkness and unlike conventional low light devices, it is not blinded by searchlights, explosions or glare from the missile motor. It will also detect targets through smoke, dust, haze or against a complex background. The sight operates by detecting the invisible heat rays given off by an object.

Poland encourages private enterprise to quell discontent

With the economy in trouble and consumer discontent reportedly rising, the Polish government is to encourage private enterprise to run shops. Forecasts are that some 40,000 of them will be opening under the new system this year.

VISNA, (WFS) — The return to favour of the small shopkeeper in Poland reflects in part the gravity of the country's economic position. Discontent has been growing among the ordinary people of the country, particularly over the shortage of meat and also over the inefficiency of the state-controlled retailing system.

It is not unusual for shops to close down -- 2,400 every year -- leaving villages or small towns with few local shops. Queues are commonplace, with the burden falling on the 42 per cent of Poland's work-force which is female and which has to struggle around the shops after a day's work.

Private enterprise

Tales of the rudeness of the staff, of the shoddiness and non-availability of goods are legion, and the growth of consumer discontent has prompted the government to take action. Poland's shops were nationalised just after the Second World War, but now private ownership is to be officially encouraged in the case of shops with up to 50 square metres of floor space.

About 40,000 shops are expected to open under this new system, and instead of having to buy their produce from the state wholesale organisations, the shopkeepers will be able to buy directly from whoever they please -- be it collective farm or individual farmers. The government hopes that this will encourage competition and lead to a more varied range of goods being sold.

In response to popular grievances -- the coal miners in Silesia, for example, are reported to be angry over the lack of meat -- the government has also put more emphasis on increasing consumer goods and services in its economic plan for 1978.

In the plan, agriculture and house-building are also given priority, at the expense of heavy industry and investment, while deliveries of consumer goods are slated to rise by 10 per cent against 1977, and deliveries of services by 13 per cent.

Grain imports needed from West

After four years of poor harvests and a cutback in meat production because of a shortage of feed for animals, Poland is short of both meat and grain. President Carter's visit to Warsaw at the end of December was an opportunity for the Polish leadership to bring up the subject of the United States providing credit to Poland to buy American grain.

It is likely that most of Poland's grain and meat imports will have to come from the West, as the Soviet Union needs most of its own production. The Soviet Union did undertake to provide some foodstuffs in November last year, under a comprehensive \$1.2 billion loan, designed in part to enable the Polish authorities to rescind the food price rises of June, 1976, which led to strikes and rioting. However, little meat or grain seems to have been delivered.

Poland expected to have to import 4.5 million tons of grain during 1977, to make up for the bad harvest, which especially hit grain and potato production. Such a figure will have cost Poland \$480 million in foreign exchange, and the country's debts to the West are already between \$10 and 12 billion.

The Poles now accept that only a couple of bumper harvests will put things right, and moves to encourage agricultural growth were embodied in the 1978 plan. State subsidies to agriculture are being increased, and most of the money will be going to meat, bread, milk and sugar production. Poles are great meat-eaters -- and spend a large proportion of their earnings on meat.

Farmers' pension

In another move to aid the farmer, a bill was passed to extend state pension to private farmers, a measure which could act as stimulus to increase the acreage of farms and agricultural output. The measure signifies the crucial role played by Poland's private farmers, who cultivate about four-fifths of all agricultural land.

There is, however, continuing resentment among them that only those who leave their farms to the state on retirement will automatically receive the full pension. The pensions of those handing farms over to their heirs will be adjusted according to the value of the produce they have sold to the state over the years.

Under the 1978 Plan, which Polish leader Edward Gierek has stressed is "absolutely binding", national income as a whole (i.e. national income produced) is to rise by 5.4 per cent. (National income distributed is to rise by 3.4 per cent.) Industrial production is to rise by 6.3 per cent.

The rise in imports is to be cut to 3.9 per cent. Meanwhile, exports are to rise by 10.3 per cent, a relatively unambitious goal, in comparison with this year's target of 13 per cent.

If Poland's economic position continues to deteriorate, some economic observers are speculating that a total clampdown may be put on imports from all but Comecon countries.

Morocco,
USSR reach
fishing
agreement

RABAT, Feb. 13 (R). — A five-year agreement between the Soviet Union and Morocco provides for joint exploitation of Moroccan fishing grounds in return for Soviet technical aid with storage facilities and training of Moroccan fishermen.

Mr. Alexander Ishkov, Soviet Fisheries Minister, in an interview published by the nationalist daily *L'Opinion* said the agreement signed at the weekend contained provisions to prevent over-fishing inside Moroccan limits, which are to be enlarged from 70 miles to 200 miles.

Under the agreement the demands of Moroccan fish canneries for domestic consumption would first be satisfied and the surplus catch sold to the Soviet Union, 7.

Mr. Ishkov left Rabat yesterday after conferring with King Hassan.

U.S. miners' union rejects settlements

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13 (R). — U.S. miners' leaders yesterday rejected a proposed settlement to end a 69-day strike which has jeopardised domestic and industrial supplies of fuel.

United Mine Workers (UMW) leader Arnold Miller said the union's 39-member Bargaining Council had turned down the proposed agreement to end the strike in the Appalachian region, by a wide margin.

He did not indicate whether he had been instructed to reopen negotiations with the mine operators but union sources said the feeling was that the agreement was "just not much good at all."

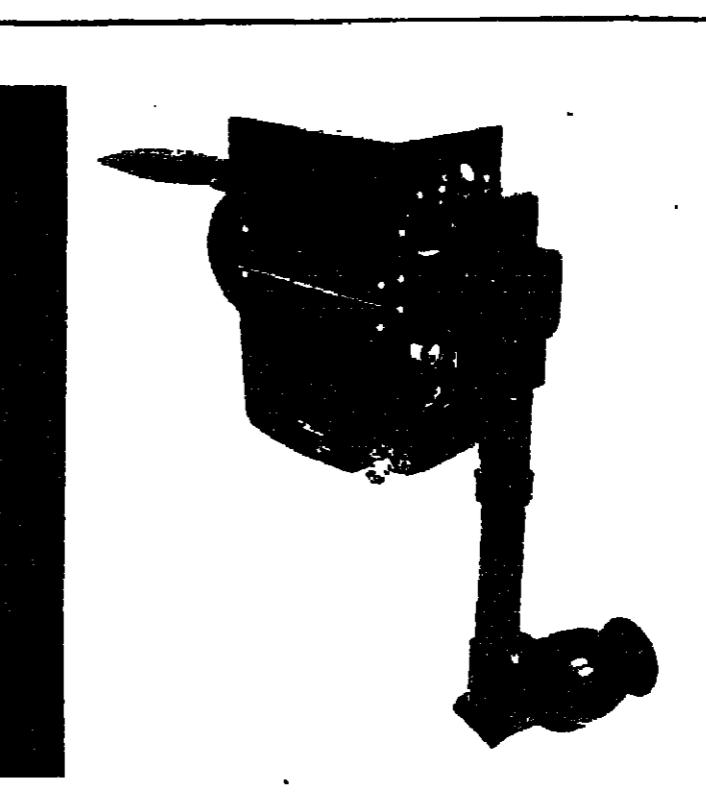
Members specifically rejected the proposed hourly wage increase from the current \$7.80 to \$10.15 by 1981, and objected to health benefit proposals, as well as provisions imposing heavy penalties on wildcat walkouts.

The rejection follows demonstrations against the proposed settlement at UMW headquarters on Friday by about 300 miners demanding Mr. Miller's resignation.

President Carter over the weekend took steps to soften the effects of the strike, the longest in the history of the coalfields, but gave no indication he intended to intervene in the negotiations.

Several states have already ordered a cutback in the industrial use of electricity and the president has ordered emergency plans to be drawn up for diverting electrical energy to affected areas, mainly in Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

The president also ordered the formation of a federal-state task force to ease suffering caused by the strike.



TEL AVIV, Feb. 13 (R). — Israel will lose up to \$30 million of citrus exports if a one-third drop in sales caused by the European scare over poisoned oranges continued, Knesset Economic Committee Chairman Gad Yaacobi said yesterday.

Israel may face loss of \$30 m. on oranges

Citrus picking in Israel has already been cut by one-third in line with the drop in demand.

Israel's Citrus Marketing Board predicted sales worth \$200 million for this season. Board sources said it was still too early to estimate the exact loss caused by the scare.

But European orders have fallen from 2.5 million crates a week to 1.5 million. Iran is also reported to have cancelled orders of about 43,000 tons.

Mr. Yaacobi said he would ask the government to instruct Israeli ambassadors abroad to encourage purchases.

A formerly unknown Palestinian group has claimed responsibility for mercury-injected oranges found in Holland, Britain, West Germany and Denmark.

People in the News

No sparring for Ali before big fight

LAS VEGAS, Nevada, (R). — World heavyweight champion Mohammad Ali has raised some eyebrows among the fight crowd here by not doing any sparring in the last four days for his title against Leon Spinks on Wednesday night. The champion limited his exercising to shadow-boxing, punching the "heavy" bag and skipping rope. Ali's shrewd trainer, Angelo Dundee, says there's an easy explanation for the lack of sparring: The champion reached his target weight of 102.6 kgs. several days ago and doesn't want to be any lighter for the match.

Meanwhile, the French franc has also been under heavy pressure for the last 10 days and on Friday Norway devalued its currency

Saudi buys 200 boat fishing fleet

DETROIT, (A.P.). — A man identifying himself as a representative of the Saudi Arabian government strolled into a boat show here and calmly ordered a 200 boat fishing fleet worth a total of \$3.6 million. The buyer, identifying himself only as D. Volerme, made the purchase during the 1978 Greater Michigan Boat Show, said Jean Schefsky, a representative for Midwest Correct Marine, who handled the transaction. Mr. Volerme made a \$50,000 downpayment on the fleet, she said. "I've never spent so little time to make so much money," the 42-year-old Mrs. Schefsky said. "The whole thing took a little over an hour. I walked into the display area when he was talking to two of our salesmen. They turned around and said this gentleman wants 200 boats. They told me later they wished they had a camera to catch the look on my face."

Polanski says U.S. trial was not fair

PARIS, (R). — A lawyer representing fugitive film director Roman Polanski said his client would stay in France to concentrate on the one area of his life in which the public had a legitimate interest -- his film work. In a press statement, lawyer Georges Kleiman said Polish-born Polanski, who had admitted having illegal sexual intercourse with a girl of 13, could no longer believe in the fairness of his trial in the United States. In the statement, the lawyer said promises made to Mr. Polanski and his U.S. lawyer, Mr. Douglas Dalton, were not kept by judge Laurence Rittenband, who was dealing with the case. Mr. Polanski "refuses to be part of a trial which is no longer fair," it said.

The emperor's clothes become controversy

TOKYO, (AP). — The emperor's clothes have become a political issue in Japan. Two organisations are weary of the formal morning coat which Emperor Hirohito usually wears in public, and they want him to wear the traditional kimono. A member of the Japanese Diet, Kazuo Tamaki, said he intends to raise the issue in committee of the upper house next month. Mr. Tamaki said the custom of having the emperor wear Western dress originated more than 100 years ago with the policy of the Japanese government to imitate the West. "There is no reason for the emperor not to wear Japanese clothes now that we have caught up with the West. This is a time to re-evaluate the good things in our own Japanese tradition," Mr. Tamaki said in an interview.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Jordanian fils Buying/selling

U.S. dollar	314.00/316.00
U.K. sterling	608.00/612.00
W. German mark	149.20/150.10
Swiss franc	161.50/162.40
French franc	64.30/64.70
Italian lire (for every 100)	36.30/36.70
Japanese yen (for every 100)	130.00/130.80
Dutch guilder	139.00/139.80
Belgian franc (for every tan)	96.00/96.60
Swedish crown	67.40/67.80

Stock prices lost ground slightly in quiet trading Monday dealers said, and at 15:00 hrs the F.T. index was down 1.9 at 469.1.

Government bonds eased by up to 1/4 point after losing up to 3/7 initially while equities held steady around easier levels. Dealers said trading interest was small ahead of the U.K. trade figures for January, due Tuesday, and the monthly U.K. money supply figures due on Thursday.

Gold shares advanced in active trading, while U.S. and Canadian shares were quietly mixed.

The leading industrials closed steady to mixed with Reed 7p higher at 107p while Bowaters, Thorn, Tube Investments and Unilever fell by up to 4p. Royal Dutch gained 1/2 stg. while other oil shares closed narrowly mixed.

Thomson organisation was unchanged at 212p ex-cap. Properties firms while banks were quietly steady.

— Financial Times
News-Features

London Market Report

National News Roundup

Saudi military delegation here

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA). — A delegation from the Royal Saudi Arabian military academy arrived in Amman Sunday on a week-long visit to Jordan. They will meet with Jordanian officials and army officers, and will visit a number of military institutions and army positions, as well as touristic and archaeological sites.

Talks held with Chinese ambassador

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA). — Agricultural topics were discussed here on Sunday between the Minister of Agriculture Salah Jum'a and the Chinese Ambassador in Amman. Agriculture ministry sources said the minister will visit China next April at the invitation of his Chinese counterpart to acquaint himself with agricultural projects in China. On Monday the Chinese ambassador met with minister of Culture and Youth Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf to discuss matters related to cultural cooperation between the two countries.

Air agreement to be signed with Iran; delegate for telecommms. meeting chosen

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA). — The Council of Ministers Sunday authorised the Jordanian ambassador in Tehran to sign an Iranian-Jordanian agreement on air transport on behalf of Jordan. The agreement aims at increasing the size of transportation of goods and passengers between the two countries. The Council of Ministers also decided on Sunday to delegate the Director General of the Telecommunications Department Mohammad Ismail to Kuwait to attend the meeting of the Arab Telecommunications Corporation committee which will be held on Feb. 22.

Soviet photo exhibit depicts good relations

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA). — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Bahjat Talhouni Monday evening opened a photo exhibit at the Soviet Cultural Centre. The seven-day exhibit includes photos depicting aspects of friendship between Jordan and the Soviet Union in particular and the Arab-Soviet friendship in general. It is being held on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries. The exhibit was also attended by the Soviet ambassador, a number of his staff, members of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society and other guests.

Ministers check on work in Mudawwara

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA). — The ministers of interior, finance, tourism and public works are starting on Tuesday an inspection tour to the Mudawwara southern outpost on the Jordanian-Saudi frontier to see how work is going in this centre which links Jordan with Syria, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia.

Ramallah mayor pays a visit

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA). — The minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh received Sunday at his office in Amman the visiting Mayor of Ramallah Karim Khalaf. Discussions during the meeting centred on the conditions of citizens in the occupied city and municipality projects.

Citibank's new building inaugurated

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA). — A new building for Citibank in Amman was inaugurated Sunday. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh, a number of bank managers, leading businessmen and the American ambassador in Amman.

Jordan University broadens its horizons

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA). — The University of Jordan today approved a suggestion by the World Health Organisation (WHO) designating the university library as a regional nucleus for the exchange of information. The university also accepted an invitation by the Imam Mohammad Ibn Saud Islamic University in Saudi Arabia to participate in the magazine which the latter intends to publish.

WHAT'S GOING ON

A film entitled "Nordsee ist Mordsee" will be showing tonight at 7:00 at the Goethe Institute. This adventure film is subtitled in English.

Another film is showing at 5:00 at the British Council — a repeat of "Glitterball" for children.

Amman Stock Exchange Report

NAME OF COMPANY	Nominal value	Volume traded	Opening price	Highest selling price	Lowest selling price	Closing price	Last buying bid	Last selling bid
*1 Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	JD 1,000	85	1,200	1,100	1,100	1,100	—	—
2 Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Co.	JD 1,000	119	2,200	2,250	2,250	2,250	—	2,300
3 General Company for Mining	JD 1,000	90	9,900	9,900	9,900	9,900	—	—
4 Arab Pharmaceutical Co.	JD 5,000	1,008	11,700	11,750	11,700	11,750	—	—
5 Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	536	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400	—	—
6 Cement Factory	JD 10,000	933	15,500	15,550	15,550	15,550	—	—
7 Ceramics Factory	JD 1,000	630	1,000	1,050	1,050	1,050	—	—
8 Jordan Petroleum Co.	JD 5,000	7,383	6,900	6,900	6,900	6,850	6,900	—
*75 per cent share capital paid.								
Total volume traded, Monday, Feb. 13: JD 16,784								



Princess Alia celebrates her birthday

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA). — Her Highness Princess Alia celebrated her 22nd birthday today. The eldest daughter of His Majesty King Hussein, Princess Alia is an English language graduate from the University of Jordan (1977), and was married to Mr. Nasri Wasti Mirza on the 11th of last July. She takes part in students activities and is active in Jordanian social service and voluntary humanitarian societies.

Jordan's orchards will bloom following U.N. agreement



AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA). — Jordan's Minister of Agriculture Salah Jum'a and the permanent representative of the United Nations Development Programme in Jordan sign an agreement about fruit trees on Sunday.

Under the terms of the agreement Jordan will receive a loan of \$11,867,000 from the World Food Programme to finance the planting of fruit trees in the country.

120,000 dunums of land lying between Yarmouk River in the north and Wadi Musa in the south will be reclaimed for orchards.

The project, to be carried out over a period of three years, will be wholly supervised by the ministry of agriculture which will offer farmers technical assistance.

French, Swiss

trade encouraged

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA). — 17-member delegation representing the Franco-Arab Chamber of Commerce discussed with a number of Jordanian business men here today means of strengthening French trade relations with Jordan.

The delegation which ended in Amman last night on a 5-day visit is scheduled to hold further contacts with Jordanian factory owners and businessmen with the aim of setting up joint French-Jordan ventures and promoting exchange of Jordanian and French goods.

Meanwhile, trade with Switzerland will also be boosted. The Amman Chamber of Industry yesterday urged Jordanian industrial institutions to cooperate with Swiss firms concerning the aim of establishing joint Swiss-Jordan industries. These will be the manufacture of children's toys, electrical equipment, glass and construction materials.

A Swiss delegation will be in Amman next month to contact with Jordanian businessmen to set up such enterprises.

AMMAN MARKETPLACE

RESTAURANTS 	FURNITURE 	FOOD MARKETS 	SWEETS 	RENT A CAR 	FLOWER SHOPS
WINE & DINE ON A TRAIN OR IN A BEDOUIN TENT ATMOSPHERE MAGNET STOP RESTAURANT 8TH CIRCLE - JABAL HUSSAIN - OPEN DAILY 12:30-4:30 PM NEXT TO NEW INSURANCE BLDG., TEL. 22770	FINLANDIA Our fine products made by experienced Finnish craftsmen include the following: • Furniture for the home and office. • Ceramic dishes and tableware. • Handcrafted jewelry. 3rd CIRCLE, JABAL HUSSAIN, NEXT TO NEW INSURANCE BLDG., TEL. 44467	INGENTO HOUSE Tel. 44238-44943 BELIN More than 50 Varieties of deluxe French biscuits for all occasions	PATCHI CONFECTIONERY GIFTS BONBONNIERS BEIRUT JABAL HUSSAIN, HADI ESSAER ST. TEL. 22569 AMMAN JABAL HUSSAIN, MOAISHEH RD. TEL. 22569	SATELLITE RENT-A-CAR BRAND NEW 1977 MODELS TEL. 25767	FLOWERS PLANTS Our experts specialise in gardening, landscaping & plant maintenance. Shmessany Rd. Tel. 57820
THE FLYING CARPET CLUB opens for dinner an elegant oriental BUFFET TEL: 62181 AMMAN	SCANDINAVIAN FURNITURE CIRCLE - JABAL HUSSAIN - OPEN DAILY 12:30-4:30 PM Luxury furniture imported in Sweden Arrangement of office and home Furniture	MISC. 	CAPRICCI Antique Furniture New Glass & Crystal Decorated Chocolates Swiss Chocolates TEL. 22562	NATIONAL RENT-A-CAR SHEPERD HOTEL Tel. 39197-8	TALAL AGRICULTURE CO. Gardening contracts. All kinds of flowers for all occasions. Decorative plants for indoors & outdoors imported from Italy & Holland. Pastic vases. Khalid Hussein St. Tel. 21271 JABAL HUSSAIN
MANDARIN CHINESE RESTAURANT Jabal Hussein Near Maxim Circle. Here you can enjoy the Mandarin Chinese cuisine. Open daily from 12:30 to 4:00 and 6:00 to midnight. For take home food orders please call 25786.	EUROPEAN FURNITURE SHOWROOM 400 SQUARE METRES OF SITTING ROOMS CHROME FURNITURE & LIGHTING FITTINGS Meticulous Quality Furniture ABDALI, NEAR B.B.M.E. BRANCH TEL. 65693 - 65778	EYES EXAMINED CONTACT LENSES (Hard & Soft) 	OPTIKOS SHAMI Q.D. The best Ever Made in Optic Jordan Intercontinental Hotel Tel. 42043	TRAVEL & SHIPPING 	BUSINESS SUPPLIES
To advertise in this section phone 6771-2-3	ADDA a place to have practical yet beautiful and comfortable furnishings. We have them in many shapes and sizes imported especially for you from Italy. Visit us today at Wadi Essaer St. Tel. 39008	To advertise in this section phone 6771-2-3	SHIPPING INSURANCE TRAVEL & TOURISM WORLD-WIDE HOTEL RESERVATIONS AIR CARGO FORWARDERS CLEARANCE DOOR TO DOOR Please contact: AMIN KAWAR & SONS Travel & Tourist Agency P.O. BOX 2222, AMMAN TEL. 22524-9 TELE. 1212 & 1820	To advertise in this section phone 6771-2-3	Let the specialists provide you with all your office equipment needs!! THE JORDAN EDUCATIONAL CO. LTD. (Agents and Distributors) "THE OFFICE EQUIPMENT CENTER OF JORDAN" Showrooms - King Hussein St. Tel. 24222-3 Offices - Prince Mohammad St. Tel. 42724

Bomb blast kills 2 as closed Commonwealth talks start in Sydney

SYDNEY, Australia Feb. 13 — Twelve British Commonwealth leaders from the Asian-Pacific region started a closed round of talks in the world body's first regional meeting in Sydney today. The four-day conference went on as scheduled despite an early morning explosion outside the hotel where the visitors were staying. Two persons were killed and nine others were wounded.

Under stringent security, the 12 Asian and Pacific leaders spent nearly four hours in what the conference spokesman described as "sober talks" but on a more relaxed level than the full meetings of the 36-nation Commonwealth.

Attending the conference are the prime ministers or presidents of Australia, Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Malaysia, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tonga and Western Samoa.

5 killed, 22 hurt in train collision southeast of Cairo

CAIRO, Feb. 13 (R). — Senior police officials said five people were killed and 22 were injured today in a train crash southeast of here.

They amended earlier police reports that more than 20 people had died and 100 had been injured.

Police said the casualties were caused when electric train bringing commuters from the industrial suburb of Helwan left the rails and was in collision with another train coming from Cairo.

The earlier casualty figures

Thai forces kill 50 Cambodians, allies in new border clashes

BANGKOK, Feb. 13 (R). — At least 50 Cambodian soldiers and local communist guerrillas have been killed in clashes with Thai government forces in northeast Thailand, a senior provincial official said today.

Mr. Pramoong Chanchampong, Governor of Ubon Ratchathani Province, told reporters the latest incident occurred yesterday in Paed-Um village of the province's Namyuen district near the Cambodian border, where 300 inhabitants were seized by the combined forces during a raid last Thursday.

He said at least 50 Cambodians and communists were killed for no losses among the

defenders in yesterday's battle. In the first clash in the village on Thursday, 20 invaders were killed and 20 more fell in fighting there the next day.

Mr. Pramoong said the raiders used heavy weapons, including rockets, M-79 grenade launchers and M-16 automatic rifles, to attack the village.

He said hundreds of people in seven villages near the scene had been evacuated to the provincial district of Namyuen following the incidents, which he described as "very serious".

The fate of the 300 inhabitants was not known, "but my duty is to get them back," Mr. Pramoong added.

U.S. Ambassador Donald McHenry, spokesman for the Western team, said Mr. Botha told them he had reached the limit of his instructions in the talks on independence for the mineral-rich territory from South Africa.

In a rare combined press conference, the five foreign ministers said progress had been made towards agreement between South Africa and the nationalists of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO).

U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance said: "I would say, on the whole, I think we have made some progress." Dr. David Owen of Britain, Mr. Donald Jamieson of Canada, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher of West Germany and M. Louis de Gianguard of France each endorsed his view.

Mr. Vance said the talks, begun last Thursday at the level of officials, had been very useful. But he said there were some difficult issues still to be resolved.

M. de Guiringaud said: "Now there is a fair chance that Namibia will accede to independence within the framework of U.N. resolutions."

South Africa rules Namibia under an old League of Nations mandate revoked 12 years ago by the United Nations.

Talks aimed at bringing independence to the territory by the end of this year after internationally-supervised elections have been going on since last April.

South African Foreign Minister Botha abandoned the talks on Sunday saying his

Poisoned grapefruit in Italy

MILAN, Feb. 13 (R). — Officials in northern Italy banned the sale of grapefruit in Milan today after finding mercury traces in a shipment from Israel. The discovery of poisoned grapefruit, which followed reports of the appearance of mercury-injected Israeli oranges in various parts of Europe, was made during a routine inspection in Bergamo Province. Italy does not import oranges from Israel but health authorities ordered checks on all citrus fruit two weeks ago when five Dutch children fell ill after eating poisoned oranges. The poisoned grapefruit was discovered in Romanombaro and Ciserano were imported from Israel and sold through markets in Milan and Bergamo, officials said.

The latest opinion poll, in the magazine Le Point, gives the left opposition 52 per cent of the first-round vote with 44 per cent for the government parties (Gaulists, President Valery Giscard d'Estaing's Republicans and the Centrists), two per cent for Ecology candidates and two per cent for others.

According to this poll, the leftists will win a 33-seat majority if they agree beforehand to back each other's best-placed candidates in the March 19 second-round ballot.

If no such agreement is forthcoming -- and the Communists are refusing to commit themselves -- the poll suggests that the government parties will hold on to power with a majority of 261 to 212.

The Gaulists now have the biggest representation in the National Assembly.

Salisbury accord threatened as Muzorewa still disagrees

SALISBURY, Feb. 13 (R). — The most crucial of all 33 sessions of the Rhodesian internal settlement conference opened today in an atmosphere of deep uncertainty.

Three of the delegations -- two black groups and the white minority government -- were prepared to sign a constitutional agreement in principle today but the fourth, the powerful United African National Council (UANC) of Bishop Abel Muzorewa, had indicated it was prepared to compromise.

"I could tell you I'm optimistic if (Rhodesian Premier Ian) Smith wants to listen to what the UANC is going to say and accept that," the bishop said.

"At the same time I would say

maybe I'm pessimistic. Maybe Mr. Smith will not accept it."

Premier Smith, the Rev. Ndzananghi Shikole of the African National Council (ANC) and tribal Chief Jeremiah Chirau's Zimbabwe United People's Organisation (ZUPO) had agreed that, in a 100-seat house, there should be 28 white members of parliament elected directly by whites.

The UANC has conceded only 20 whites-only seats, with a further eight whites elected by a mixed roll of blacks and whites.

Nazi salutes at Kappler's burial

SOLTAU, West Germany, Feb. 13 (AP). — With a trumpeted farewell and Nazi salutes, SS officer Herbert Kappler was buried in a pine-lined grave in this town of 15,000 today. Herr Kappler was buried after a one-hour service in a grey stone cemetery chapel where rumbling artillery from nearby NATO firing ranges provided a background for prayers and hymns. Four unidentified men gave the Nazi salute at the open grave. Herr Kappler, an escaped Nazi war criminal, died of stomach cancer last week in his wife's modest apartment above a downtown pharmacy here. Frau Kappler had smuggled her husband from Rome where he was serving a life sentence for the 1944 reprisal slaying of 335 Italian civilians.

Chirac warns of leftist poll victory

PARIS, Feb. 13 (R). — France's Gaullist Party has launched its campaign to stay in government with dire warnings of what will happen if Communists win a share of power in next month's parliamentary elections.

The first round of the election takes place four weeks from yesterday, Sunday, and the Gaullist chief, former Premier Jacques Chirac, addressed the warnings this weekend to a Paris rally attended by an estimated 100,000 party followers.

M. Chirac, speaking after opinion polls gave a lead to the Socialist-Communist opposition, told his cheering audience: "The Communist Party has the means to paralyse you and to paralyse France."

Wherever the Communists were in power in the world "men are still put in prison for a book written for a thought expressed," said M. Chirac, now the Mayor of Paris.

He declared that France faced servitude and economic disaster if a leftist coalition including the Communists, was allowed to apply its programs.

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Paraguay's Stroessner elected president for 6th term -- as expected

ASUNCION, Feb. 13 (R). — Paraguay's Gen. Alfredo Stroessner was re-elected as President by an overwhelming majority in yesterday's general elections, according to unofficial results announced here.

Official figures for the voting were not expected for a few days, but no one doubted that Gen. Stroessner, who has ruled this poor landlocked South American nation with an iron grip for 23 years, would win by a wide margin.

Officials said the elections had been peaceful and orderly and no incidents were reported.

World News Briefs

U.S. bomb accidentally lands in Sardinia

CAGLIARI, Sardinia, Feb. 13 (R). — A United States fighter-bomber accidentally dropped a 200 kgs. bomb on this Mediterranean island last Saturday, local officials said today. The bomb blasted a crater on a resort area 70 kms. southwest of here, causing widespread panic but no injuries. It was dropped by a plane from the Sixth Fleet aircraft carrier Nimitz during a joint Italian-American exercise, the officials said. U.S. navy officials said they would issue a statement on the incident later.

More Cosmos fragments found in Canada

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 13 (R). — More debris from a nuclear-powered Soviet space satellite which fell to earth over Canada three weeks ago has been recovered during the weekend, Canadian External Affairs Minister Donald Jamieson said. Mr. Jamieson, in New York for crucial talks on the future of Namibia, said Canada expected the United Nations Committee on Outer Space to take up the satellite question at meetings beginning today.

Israelis will see film on Arab eviction

TEL AVIV, Feb. 13 (R). — After a week-long storm over censorship, Israeli Television viewers will see a film today depicting the uprooting of Arab villagers during the 1948 war. The state broadcasting authority voted 18-to-six yesterday to go ahead with the broadcast. The film, Khirbet Hiza, was made by Mr. Ram Levy, a young director who teaches at Tel Aviv University. Critics have argued that the film provides "propaganda for Israel's enemies." Opposition politicians and the press denounced the decision of the Minister of Education and Culture, Mr. Zevi Hammer, to bar last Monday's scheduled showing.

40 killed in Canadian airplane crash

CRANBROOK, British Columbia, Feb. 13 (R). — Forty people were killed when a Canadian Boeing 737 airliner crashed Saturday into a snowbank here and exploded in a ball of flame. Hospital authorities reported only seven survivors, one crew member and six passengers, from the Pacific Western Airlines plane. A spokesman said some of those who escaped were badly injured from burns. The twin-engine jet, carrying 42 passengers and a crew of five, was trying to land in a snowstorm. Eye-witnesses said the pilot apparently tried to gain altitude at the last minute but overshot the runway and crashed into a snowbank. Flight shot some 60 metres in the air from the wreckage. The plane was flying from Fort McMurray, Alberta, with stops in Edmonton, Calgary and Cranbrook, to Castlegar, British Columbia.

29 Mediterranean states call for peace

ATHENS, Feb. 13 (R). — Delegates from 29 countries bordering the Mediterranean yesterday pledged to make the region a zone of peace. In a resolution at the end of a five-day conference to discuss peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean, delegates said they would also work for the simultaneous dissolution of NATO and the Warsaw Pact. The resolution adopted by about 400 delegates called on governments to make every effort to reduce arms in the region with the aim of transforming the Mediterranean into a zone of peace. It called for settlements of long-standing disputes, such as Cyprus, rival Greek and Turkish claims to the Aegean and the Middle East. The conference was organised by the Greek Preparatory Committee on behalf of the World Peace Council.

Begin's "economic policy" promised paradise; so far only higher prices have been achieved

When Israel "freed" its economy and floated its pound late last year the economy minister predicted that the measures would eventually turn Israel into the Switzerland of the Middle East. Meanwhile, however, they have pushed up prices and put pressure on the poorer Israelis.

By Judith Perera

LONDON — The Israel Labour Party (Mapai) which ruled Israel for the first 30 years of its existence, was inspired by a mixture of socialism and Zionism brought to the Middle East by its founders, many of whom came from Eastern Europe. Initially the socialist influence was strong, but with time it has been modified so that in recent years Israel's economy might be described as state-controlled capitalism.

The socialist institutions, however, still remain -- the kibbutz system and the powerful trade union federation (Histadrut) -- and it is these which may prove the biggest obstacle to the new government in its attempts to "free" the Israeli economy.

Some 90 per cent of the work force belong to the Histadrut and over 30 per cent are employed by it. Moreover, it is responsible for 25 per cent of the country's production and accounts for 20 per cent of industry, 40 per cent of construction and 75 per cent of agriculture (mainly through the kibbutz movement). It also owns a number of banks and runs the national insurance scheme. Its main weakness is its bureaucracy. Critics say that it has become increasingly distant from the members.

Government subsidies

Three decades of labour Party rule also resulted in extensive government involvement in the economy. Last year it employed over 30 per

cent of the labour force and government spending accounted for about 70 per cent of the national income. There was a complicated system of subsidies and taxes, including income tax of 62 per cent, and local industry was heavily protected by import tariffs and export incentives. There were also stringent currency and exchange controls.

This undoubtedly helped Israel to industrialise fast and made some contribution to maintaining one of the highest levels of defence spending in the world. But it was not nearly enough and the country became ever more dependent on regular and massive injections of foreign aid. Prime Minister Menachem Begin recently noted: "Today we are dependent on overseas aid even for our breakfast." In 1977, for example, U.S. aid amounted to \$1,800 million and a further \$2,000 million came in from other sources.

In spite of this support the Israeli economy had begun to crack with an inflation rate of almost 40 per cent and a growth rate of barely 1 per cent. Investment fell by 14 per cent in 1976 and by another 5 per cent last year. The balance of payments deficit is now \$3,000 million despite a 30 per cent rise in exports, and foreign debt has reached \$10,000 million.

New policy

It was in part dissatisfaction with this situation which brought Mr. Begin to power last May, ending 30 years of Labour Party government. Mr. Begin brought in U.S. economist Milton Friedman to advise him and almost immediately set about "freeing" the Israeli economy and removing the "distortions" of Mapai socialism.

The first steps of the "new economic policy" were taken last July when subsidies were cut by 25 per cent as part of total government spending cuts of \$235 million, which included a freeze on the civil service. Three months later the policy was implemented with full force. The Israeli pound was floated and immediately devalued by some 45 per cent, import licences were removed from all goods except 300 carefully-selected items, currency restrictions were lifted

and export incentives abolished and value-added tax increased from 8 to 12 per cent.

As a result, in November alone the cost of living rose by 11.8 per cent and the overall rise in prices is expected to approach 50 per cent. There were numerous strikes against the measures, but in the end the Histadrut leadership decided not to call a general strike because of "national considerations".

"Switzerland of Mideast"

Economy Minister Simcha Ehrlich is highly optimistic about the possible effect of the measures. He claims they could transform Israel into the "Switzerland of the Middle East," attracting foreign investment and reducing dependence on foreign aid. But some of the less efficient industries will without doubt go to the wall without the protection they previously enjoyed, and this together with the civil service freeze will increase unemployment.

The industries expected to be hardest hit are plastics and rubber, textiles, and chemicals -- all of which are the mainstay of the Naqab Desert development towns where the poorer Oriental Jews are concentrated. Ironically, it was the Oriental Jewish vote which was largely responsible for bringing Mr. Begin to power.

The Sephardic Jews now living in the Naqab Desert development towns where the poorer Oriental Jews are concentrated. Ironically, it was the Oriental Jewish vote which was largely responsible for bringing Mr. Begin to power.

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